



# Australian Bureau of Statistics

## 1362.7 - Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2003

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### **Northern Territory: The people, the land, the economy**

The total value of engineering construction work in the Northern Territory increased to \$1,227 million(m) in 2001-2002, according to new figures released today by the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS). This was an increase of \$1,058m from the previous financial year and can primarily be attributed to the construction of the Darwin to Alice Springs railway and the heavy industry associated with such a large-scale project.

This information is included in **Regional Statistics, Northern Territory 2003** which captures ABS and other government agency data for the NT regions and sub-regions, including population and employment summaries, and information on mining and agriculture, transport, tourism, education, health, policing, government finance and Indigenous statistics.

Other interesting facts in the publication include:

- At June 2002, the Territory's population was estimated at 198,013. More than half of the population lived in Darwin Statistical Division (SD) and Environs (55.2%) which had an average annual growth rate of 1.6% for the 5 years to June 2002.
- Palmerston-East Arm Statistical Subdivision (SSD) contributed significantly to the Darwin SD and Environs growth with an average annual growth rate of 9.5% for the 5 years to June 2002, and a 3.1% increase in 2001-02.
- The ten years from December 1992 to December 2002 saw the number of employed people in the NT increase by 30.2%, while for Australia the increase was 23.6%.
- At February 2003 the average weekly earnings for full-time adults in the NT was \$880.30, 2.2% below the national average of \$900.40.
- In 2002 Indigenous students represented around 40% of all preschool enrolments, 37.9% of primary school enrolments and 31.6% of secondary school enrolments in the NT.
- The NT imprisonment rate per 10,000 adult population decreased from 51.1 in 2001 to 46.6 in 2002.
- During 2002 there were 2,188 road traffic accidents recorded in the NT, a decrease of 8.8% from 2000. Darwin Regional Balance had the highest rate per 10,000 population (151.5), followed by the Barkly Region (138.0) and Darwin SD and Environs (118.3).
- Mineral and Petroleum exploration expenditure for the NT increased significantly in 2001-02 (67.9%) from the previous financial year, while the Australian level of exploration expenditure fell by 10.8% over the same period. The majority of the increase in expenditure for the NT occurred in petroleum exploration expenditure in the Ashmore and Cartier Island

regions.

- Of the 1.7 million visitors to the NT in 2001-02, 46% visited the Top End, 16% visited the Katherine Region, 8% visited the Barkly Region, and 44% visited the Central Region. On average, visitors stayed 6.6 nights in the Top End compared with 4 nights in the Central Region, 3.3 nights in the Katherine Region and 2.1 nights in the Barkly Region.

Further details can be found in **Regional Statistics, Northern Territory, 2003** (cat.no. 1362.7).

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